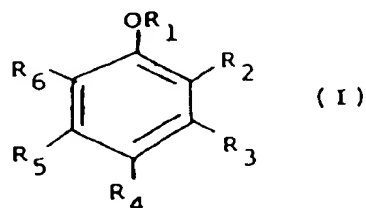


THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A feeding stimulant for stimulating feeding activity in termites, comprising an effective amount of a compound capable of stimulating feeding activity in termites, said
- 5 compound having at least two OR groups, each of which is a substituent of an aryl moiety, and R is hydrogen or an organic group, and addition compounds thereof, and a biologically acceptable carrier and/or extender.
- 10 2. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least one R is an organic group and said compound has feeding stimulating activity.
- 15 3. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 2 wherein said organic group is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, aralkyl and substituted aralkyl.
- 20 4. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least one R is an organic group and said compound is a precursor of a compound with feeding stimulating activity.
- 25 5. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 4 wherein said compound is hydrolysed to a compound in which said at least one R is hydrogen.
6. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 5 wherein said organic group is a carbohydrate moiety.
- 30 7. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 6 wherein said compound is β -arbutin.

8. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 1 wherein said aryl group is a benzene ring substituted by said at least two OR groups.

9. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 8 wherein said compound has the following general formula I:



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wherein R₁ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, aralkyl and substituted aralkyl;

15

R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅ and R₆ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, aryl, substituted aryl, aryloxy, substituted aryloxy, aralkyl, substituted aralkyl, aralkyloxy and substituted aralkyloxy, or R₂ and R₃ together, R₃ and R₄ together, R₄ and R₅ together and/or R₅ and R₆ together form an aryl group;

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provided only that least one of R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅ or R₆ is hydroxyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, aryloxy, substituted aryloxy, aralkyloxy or substituted aralkyloxy.

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10. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 9 wherein R₁ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, aryl and aralkyl.

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11. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 10 wherein R₁ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, phenyl and benzyl.

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12. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 11 wherein R_1 is hydrogen.

13. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 9 wherein R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 and R_6 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, alkyl, alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, aralkyl, and aralkyloxy.

14. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 13 wherein R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 and R_6 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, phenyl, phenoxy, benzyl and benzyloxy.

15. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 14 wherein R_2 or R_6 is hydroxyl.

16. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 14 wherein R_3 or R_5 is hydroxyl.

17. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 14 wherein R_4 is hydroxyl.

18. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 1 wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

p-hydroquinone
quinhydrone
catechol
resorcinol
phloroglucinol
4-methoxyphenol
methoxyhydroquinone
1,4-dimethoxybenzene

4-phenoxyphenol
phenylhydroquinone
4-benzyloxyphenol

5 19. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 1 wherein said compound has a plurality of aryl moieties.

20. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 19 wherein each said aryl moiety is a benzene ring.

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21. A feeding stimulant as claimed in claim 20 wherein said compound is a polyphenylether.

22. A method of stimulating feeding activity in termites,
15 comprising the steps of:

(1) providing a feeding stimulant as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 21; and

(2) applying said feeding stimulant to a locus.

20 23. A method as claimed in claim 22 further comprising the step of providing a food source at said locus.

24. A method of attracting termites to a locus, comprising the steps of:

25 (1) providing a food source at said locus;

(2) providing a feeding stimulant as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 21; and

(3) applying said feeding stimulant to said locus.

30 25. A bait for attracting termites, comprising:

(1) a food source; and

(2) a feeding stimulant as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 21.

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claims 1 to 21.

26. A bait as claimed in claim 25 wherein said food source is a source of cellulose.

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27. A bait as claimed in claim 26 wherein said food source is selected from the group consisting of paper, cardboard, canite, chipboard, sound wood and fungally decayed wood.

10

28. A bait as claimed in any one of claims 25 to 27 further comprising a termiticidal substance.

29. A bait as claimed in claim 28 in which said termiticidal substance is a chitin synthesis inhibitor or an insect growth regulator.

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30. A bait as claimed in any one of claims 25 to 29 further comprising an antioxidant.

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31. A bait as claimed in any one of claims 25 to 30 further comprising a synergist and/or other attractants.

32. A bait as claimed in any one of claims 25 to 31 further comprising nutrients such as nitrogen-containing compounds and carbohydrates.

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33. A termiticidal composition comprising:

(1) a termiticidal substance; and

(2) a feeding stimulant as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 21.

30

34. A termiticidal composition as claimed in claim 33 wherein said termiticidal substance is a chitin synthesis inhibitor or insect growth regulator.

5 35. A compound having at least two OR groups, each of which is a substituent of an aryl moiety, and R is hydrogen or an organic group, and addition compounds thereof, when used for stimulating feeding activity in termites.

10 36. A compound as claimed in claim 35 of general formula I as defined in claim 9.

15 37. A compound having at least two OR groups, each of which is a substituent of an aryl moiety, and R is hydrogen or an organic group, and addition compounds thereof, when used in an amount effective to stimulate feeding activity in termites to attract termites to a locus.

20 38. A compound as claimed in claim 37 of general formula I as defined in claim 9.

25 39. The use of a compound having at least two OR groups, each of which is a substituent of an aryl moiety, and R is hydrogen or an organic group, and addition compounds thereof, in stimulating feeding activity in termites.

40. The use of a compound as claimed in claim 39 wherein said compound is of general formula I as defined in claim 9.

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41. The use in an amount effective to stimulate feeding activity in termites of a compound capable of stimulating feeding activity in termites, said compound having at least

two OR groups, each of which is a substituent of an aryl moiety, and R is hydrogen or an organic group, and addition compounds thereof, to attract termites to a locus.

5 42. The use of a compound as claimed in claim ~~41~~ wherein
said compound is of general formula I as defined in claim
9.

43. The use in an amount effective to stimulate feeding activity in termites of a compound capable of stimulating feeding activity in termites in the manufacture of a bait for attracting termites, said compound having at least two OR groups, each of which is a substituent of an aryl moiety, and R is hydrogen or an organic group, and addition compounds thereof.

44. The use of compound as claimed in claim 43 wherein said compound is of general formula I as defined in claim 9.

45. The use in an amount effective to stimulate feeding activity in termites of a compound capable of stimulating feeding activity in termites in the manufacture of a termiticidal composition, said compound having at least two OR groups, each of which is a substituent of an aryl moiety, and R is hydrogen or an organic group, and addition compounds thereof.

46. The use of a compound as claimed in claim 45 wherein
30 said compound is of general formula I as defined in claim
9.

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47. A method of stimulating feeding activity in termites, comprising the steps of:

- (1) providing a compound effective in stimulating feeding activity in termites having at least two OR groups, each of which is a substituent of an aryl moiety, and R is hydrogen or an organic group, and addition compounds thereof; and
- (2) applying said compound to a locus.

48. A method as claimed in claim 47 wherein at least one R is an organic group and said compound has feeding stimulating activity.

49. A method as claimed in claim 48 wherein said organic group is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, aralkyl and substituted aralkyl.

50. A method as claimed in claim 47 wherein at least one R is an organic group and said compound is a precursor of a compound with feeding stimulating activity.

51. A method as claimed in claim 50 wherein said compound is hydrolysed to a compound in which said at least one R is hydrogen.

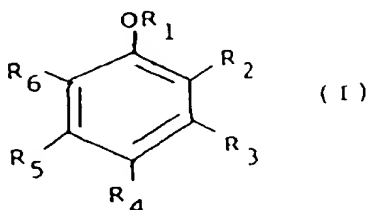
52. A method as claimed in claim 51 wherein said organic group is a carbohydrate moiety.

53. A method as claimed in claim 52 wherein said compound is β -arbutin.

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54. A method as claimed in claim 47 wherein said compound has an aromatic nucleus substituted by said at least two OR groups.

- 5 55. A method as claimed in claim 54 wherein said compound has the following general formula I:



15 wherein R₁ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, aralkyl and substituted aralkyl;

20 R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅ and R₆ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, aryl, substituted aryl, aryloxy, substituted aryloxy, alkaryl, substituted alkaryl, alkaryloxy and substituted alkaryloxy, or R₂ and R₃ together, R₃ and R₄ together, R₄ and R₅ together and/or R₅ and R₆ together form an aryl group;

25 provided only that least one of R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅ or R₆ is hydroxyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, aryloxy, substituted aryloxy, alkaryloxy or substituted alkaryloxy.

30 56. A method as claimed in claim 55 wherein R₁ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, aryl and alkaryl.

57. A method as claimed in claim 56 wherein R₁ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl,

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phenyl and benzyl.

58. A method as claimed in claim 57 wherein R₁ is hydrogen.

5 59. A method as claimed in claim 54 wherein R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅
and R₆ are independently selected from the group consisting
of hydrogen, hydroxyl, alkyl, alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy,
alkaryl, and alkaryloxy.

10 60. A method as claimed in claim 58 wherein R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5
and R_6 are independently selected from the group consisting
of hydrogen, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy,
phenyl, phenoxy, benzyl and benzyloxy.

15 61. A method as claimed in claim ~~60~~ wherein R₂ or R₆ is hydroxyl.

62. A method as claimed in claim 60 wherein R₃ or R₅ is hydroxyl.

20

63. A method as claimed in claim 60 wherein R₄ is hydroxyl.

64. A method as claimed in claim 47 wherein said compound
25 is selected from the group consisting of:

p-hydroquinone

quinhydrone

catechol

resorcinol

30 phloroglucinol

4-methoxyphenol

methoxyhydroquinone

1,4-dimethoxybenzene

4-phenoxyphenol
phenylhydroquinone
4-benzyloxyphenol

- 5 65. A method as claimed in claim 47 wherein said compound has a plurality of aryl moieties.
66. A method as claimed in claimed 42 wherein each said aryl moiety is a benzene ring.
- 10 67. A method as claimed in claim 43 wherein said compound is a polyphenylether.

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